

Lauren Sparks  
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Benton, AR 72018

Ms. Marlene Dortch, Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: IB Docket 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I appreciate this opportunity to comment on LightSquared's Petition for Declaration Ruling. I believe the scope of this matter extends beyond LightSquared and speaks to the need for more enforcement and clarity regarding the rights afforded to licensed and unlicensed users of spectrum.

I understand that LightSquared is asking for clarification from the FCC regarding spectrum use, and it is my sincere hope much-needed clarity will be provided – for the sake of LightSquared, and for future policy. The FCC must address the issue of spectrum rights and who is responsible for mitigating interference within the boundaries of one's licensed spectrum. Limited broadband access is an issue that I, among many others in my area, constantly face. As I understand it, Arkansas is ranked forty-eighth in the country for broadband access, and I believe it. As an expectant mother and night-commuter to law school, I must have reliable access to high-speed Internet to help with the demands of a growing family and school. I encourage the FCC to push for alternatives that would allow LightSquared and the GPS devices to share network usage, at least as a short-term plan. Expanding access would relieve the ever-growing strain on our overcrowded bandwidth.

With respect to LightSquared's proposal, I understand that it plans on using its licensed spectrum to build a wholesale, high-speed mobile broadband network in an expedited manner, as mandated by the FCC. Although it is being funded wholly by private capital, it appears to help our country meet many of the public policy goals laid out in the National Broadband Plan, including increasing wireless competition and enabling more Americans to access affordable high-speed wireless services. As the matters surrounding the interference issues have laid bare, progress towards meeting the National Broadband Plan's worthy goals are at risk, largely due to misperceptions of the FCC's rules on spectrum usage. As such, I urge the FCC to expeditiously consider LightSquared's petition. Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,



Lauren Sparks

CC: The Honorable Lawrence E. Strickling  
Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information  
National Telecommunications and Information Administration  
United States Department of Commerce  
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